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RACHEL ROY VS. THE BEYHIVE

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NO GO FOR PERVS

New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo orders state agencies to keep paroled sex offenders from playing Pokemon Go and other internet games that could give them access to kids. 4

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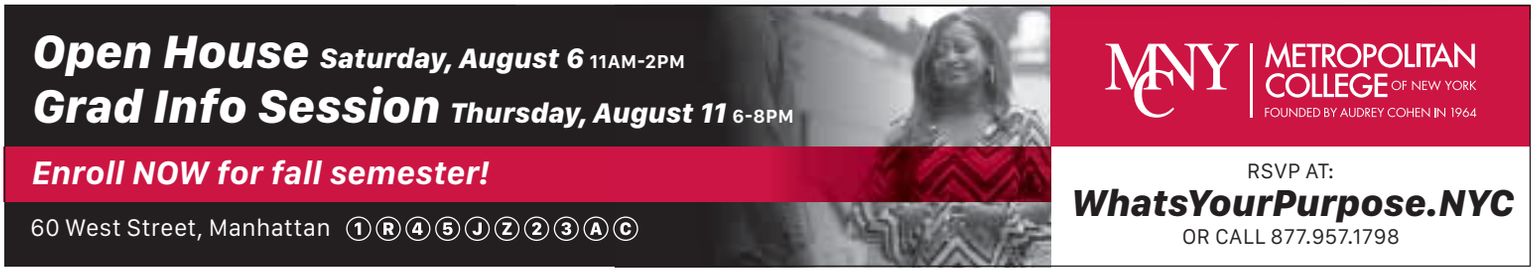
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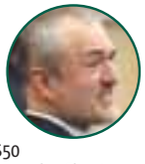

Gawker Media Chief Executive Nick Denton filed for personal bankruptcy protection on Monday, according to court documents that named his largest creditor as Hulk Hogan, a former professional wrestler who won a $140 million court judgment against the website over a sex tape. Denton listed assets of $10 million to $50 million and liabilities of $100 million to $500 million in his Chapter 11 bankruptcy petition, filed in U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of New York. Gawker Media filed for bankruptcy in June after Hogan won the judgment in a Florida lawsuit. REUTERS

TEXAS ALLOWS GUNS IN COLLEGE CLASSROOMS UNDER NEW LAW

2 A new law went into effect in Texas on Monday that allows certain students to bring guns into classrooms, with supporters saying it could prevent mass shootings and critics saying the measure will endanger safety on campuses. The so-called state "campus carry" law allows people 21 and older with a concealed handgun license to carry pistols in classrooms and buildings throughout public colleges, including the University of Texas system, one of the nation's largest with an enrollment of more than 214,000 students. The law took effect on the 50th anniversary of one of the deadliest U.S. gun incidents on a college campus, when a student named Charles Whitman killed 16 people by firing from a perch atop the clock tower at the University of Texas at Austin, the state's flagship public university. REUTERS

FBI EMPLOYEE PLEADS GUILTY TO ACTING AS CHINESE AGENT

3 An FBI electronics technician pleaded guilty to having illegally acted as an agent of China, admitting that he on several occasions passed sensitive information to a Chinese official. Kun Shan Chun, who was employed by the Federal Bureau of Investigation since 1997, pleaded guilty in federal court in Manhattan to one count of having illegally acted as an agent of a foreign government. Chun, who was arrested in March on a set of charges made public only on Monday, admitted in court that from 2011 to 2016 he acted at the direction of a Chinese official, to whom he passed the sensitive information. That information included the identity and travel plans of an FBI agent; an internal organizational chart; and photos he took of documents in a restricted area related to surveillance technology. REUTERS

Report: City Hall missed chances to stop sale of Rivington House

Developer paid city $16.2M to have deed restrictions removed, then flipped former health-care facility for $72M profit.

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Rivington House OFFICE OF THE NYC COMPTROLLER

According to a report, city officials allowed the sale of Rivington House, a Lower East Side nursing home and health-care facility, for a $72 million profit in a condo-development deal after the removal of the formerly not-for-profit property's deed restrictions.

On Monday, New York City Comptroller Scott M. Stringer released a report that outlined how the health-care facility was eventually sold after a series of questionable oversights took away the city's ability to ensure that the property remain used for a public purpose. The result was that, for a payment of $16.15 million, the city removed Rivington House's deed restrictions, which led to its eventual sale to a luxury condo developer.

"No individual should be allowed to profit off the loss of vital community resources," Stringer said. "But what's worse is that the checks and balances in place to avoid this kind of outcome were mismanaged."

Despite 48 staff meetings and hundreds of emails and telephone conversations among city officials, Joel Landau, principal of Allure Group, was able to secure the removal of the not-for-profit restrictions on Rivington House's deed while he was working to flip the location into condos, Stringer's report stated.

"City Hall and DCAS had every opportunity to prevent Rivington House from being sold to luxury-housing developers."

Stringer

On Feb. 9, 2015, Landau acquired the facility from VillageCare for $28 million, according to the report. In November of that year, he paid the city $16.15 million to have the property's use restrictions removed, despite missed opportunities for city oversight in the form of a public hearing by the mayor's Office of Contract Services, an undervalued appraisal from the Department of Citywide Administrative Services and the mayor not receiving communications from his staff indicating that Rivington's deed restrictions had been lifted.

"City Hall and DCAS had every opportunity to prevent Rivington House from being sold to luxury-housing developers," Stringer said. "We must ensure that our deed-restriction protocols are updated, but also that procedures are properly executed by city staff to ensure the interests of the city and its residents are always protected."

On Feb. 11, 2016, Landau's sale of the Rivington House property to Rivington Street Investors closed for $116 million.

Stringer outlined several steps to ensure that such a sale would not happen again, including strengthening mayoral oversight in the form of a more active Office of Contract Services, ensuring public input by better advertising and notifying community members of public hearings and expanding the city's definition of "best interest," according to the report.

"We have to make sure our government operates with the highest level of accountability to guarantee this never happens again," Stringer stated.

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Cuomo moves to restrict sex offenders from Pokemon Go

"As technology evolves, we must ensure these advances don't become new avenues for dangerous predators to prey on new victims."

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At the direction of Gov. Andrew Cuomo, the New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision has imposed a new condition applicable to supervised sex offenders' parole that will prohibit them from playing any internet-related games, including Pokemon Go.

After a recent report from New York state Sens. Jeffrey D. Klein and Diane Savino showed that children playing Pokemon Go have been led to locations close to, or even at, sex offenders' residences, Cuomo on Monday directed officials to restrict such offenders from playing Pokemon Go and similar games.

"Protecting New York's children is priority No. 1 and, as technology evolves, we must ensure these advances don't become new avenues for dangerous predators to prey on new victims," Gov. Cuomo said.

Cuomo also sent a letter to Pokemon Go developer Niantic Inc. requesting its help in keeping sexual predators from playing the game, the governor's office said. He directed the Department of Criminal Justice Services to cooperate with Niantic in providing the most up-to-date information from the sex offender registry, saying developers of mobile games like Pokemon Go should receive the same information that is regularly shared with companies like Facebook, Apple and Microsoft.

"These actions will provide safeguards for the players of these augmented-reality games and help take one more tool away from those seeking to do harm to our children," Cuomo stated.

The new directive will prohibit nearly 3,000 Levels 1, 2 and 3 sex offenders on parole from downloading, accessing or engaging in any internet-enabled gaming activities, the governor's office stated.

The DCJS will also be providing guidance to county probation offices adopting this policy.

A Pokemon Go player accesses the game. GETTY IMAGES

Rent increases in Bronx are outpacing Manhattan, Brooklyn

The Bronx may no longer be burning, but its real estate prices are starting to heat up.

Rising rents in some Bronx neighborhoods are outpacing boroughwide increases in Manhattan and Brooklyn, despite the borough being home to some of the nation's most impoverished communities.

Median rents for one-bedroom apartments in Mott Haven, the Grand Concourse and Hunts Point have all risen at least a third since 2013, according to data provided by NeighborhoodX, a real estate analytics startup.

Topping the list is Mott Haven, at the southern tip of the Bronx, where upscale development and renovations rocketed rents 47 percent to $1,700 from $1,200 in a neighborhood that is largely tenements and city housing projects, with three historic districts.

In contrast, over the same period median rents for a one-bedroom in Brooklyn increased 11 percent to $2,746 from $2,473, while in Manhattan they rose 5 percent to $3,412 from $3,250, according to data provided by Miller Samuel, a real estate appraisal and consulting firm that does work for Douglas Elliman Real Estate.

The Bronx is affected by the same factor that has pushed rents up in Brooklyn and Queens: proximity to Manhattan, said Constantine Valhouli, co-founder of NeighborhoodX. But the Bronx still has bargains compared to other boroughs, he said.

For instance, median one-bedroom rents in Morris Heights average $1,250; in Melrose, $1,300; and in University Heights, $1,500. A look at rents in Brooklyn and Queens shows the median rent in Greenpoint at $2,700, while more distant Bay Ridge and Flushing come in at $1,800, according to NeighborhoodX.

The same forces that are making the Bronx attractive to renters with more money are also attracting developers. New buildings and the conversion of old residential and industrial space is playing a significant role in some of the neighborhood rent hikes, Valhouli said.

Rising rents are putting a squeeze on some tenants, leading to evictions, said Nancy Biberman, founder and president of WHEDco, a nonprofit working to improve housing, education and the quality of life for South Bronx residents.

"There are lots of situations where owners try to evict people because they want to get higher rents from somebody else," Biberman said. Substantial rent increases are possible even in rent-stabilized apartments when landlords make significant improvements.

Evictions take two forms, failure to pay rent and the increasingly common landlord complaint that tenants are violating terms of their leases, she said.

"The landlord says, 'I want you out,'" Biberman said. "You shouldn't be living here. It's not really your apartment; it's your mother's — even though the law has substantial rights that accrue to family members if the original tenant is no longer there."

While these market forces are not likely to disappear, Biberman hopes they could be slowed, allowing more lower-income tenants to remain. The key, she said, is better representation in housing court to prevent illegitimate evictions and protect more affordable housing. LEN MANIACE

Community center in ground floor of apartment building 1520 Sedgwick Ave. in the Bronx is recognized as official birthplace of hip-hop. Rents in buildings like these are rising fast. GETTY IMAGES; NUMBERS BELOW COURTESY OF NEIGHBORHOODX CORP.

2016 vs. 2013: Comparing median 1BR rents in the Bronx

2016	2013
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Group against police violence wants Bratton, NYPD axed

Josmar Trujillo, left, who lives in Spanish Harlem, and Nicholas Heyward Sr., whose son Nicholas Heyward Jr. was killed by police in 1994 in Brooklyn, rally Monday during a protest against police brutality at City Hall Park. GETTY IMAGES

Millions March NYC protests outside City Hall as two-year anniversary of Ferguson draws near.

KIMBERLY M. AQUILINA
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Millions March NYC, an anti-police violence group that started two years ago during the "I can't breathe" protests, gathered outside City Hall on Monday demanding changes.

The group listed its demand on a Facebook event: fire NYPD Commissioner Bill Bratton and end his broken windows policing, reparations for victims and survivors of "police brutality from the NYPD budget" and "defund NYPD's $5.5 billion annual budget & reinvest into Black & Brown communities."

Bratton announced on July 25 that he plans to resign by the end of next year.

"He needs to go now," organizer Vienna Rye said. "So many black and brown people are in [jail at] Rikers because they didn't have $2.75 in subway fare. Meanwhile killer cops are on paid leave."

The protests come as the two-year anniversary of the Michael Brown shooting on Aug. 9 in Ferguson, Missouri, draws closer.

"We're not targets," Millions March organizer Cleo Jeffryes told Gothamist in July when the protest was announced. "We're human beings. Bill Bratton is a racist and a bigot who's done so much to harm the black and brown community."

A representative from City Hall gave this statement:

"From reducing stop and frisk and marijuana arrests, to launching neighborhood policing and body cameras, we've taken clear steps to strengthen NYPD's relationship with the community while keeping New York the safest big city in America. New York City has a longstanding history of supporting public expression, and we believe in all New Yorkers' rights to peacefully make their voices heard. Our city's parks are for the public to enjoy, and NYPD will be on hand to make sure the area is safe and that access is not disrupted by these demonstrations."

"Policing is a violent, anti-black institution that originated as slave patrols," Millions March wrote in its protest orientation guide.

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[1]*The Washington Post*, Washington Bestsellers Paperback Nonfiction/General. March 29, 2009. [2]WealthManagement.com's "Top 100 RIAs of 2015" ranking was assembled using data from Meridian-IQ. Advisory firms are ranked by total assets under management. To land on the list, firms had to have a focus on financial and retirement planning for individual and high-net-worth clients. And institutional clients do not make up a substantial portion of their businesses. Finally, none of these firms are owned by a bank, broker/dealer or investment company. Investor experience/returns were not considered as part of this ranking. Edelman Financial Services Ranked 3rd. [3]Throughout the firm's nearly 30 year history, EFS and Ric Edelman have been presented with more than 100 business, advisory, communication and community service awards. A complete list of awards won can be requested by contacting the firm at (888)-PLAN-RIC. [4]According to *Barron's*, "The formula [used] to rank advisors has three major components: assets managed, revenue produced and quality of the advisor's practice. Investment returns are not a component of the rankings because an advisor's returns are dictated largely by each client's risk tolerance. The quality-of-practice component includes an evaluation of each advisor's regulatory record." The rankings are based on the universe of applications submitted to *Barron's*. The selection process begins with a nomination and application provided to *Barron's*. Principals of Edelman Financial Services, LLC self-nominated the firm and submitted quantitative and qualitative information to *Barron's* as requested. *Barron's* reviewed and considered this information which resulted in the rankings on Aug. 27, 2012/Aug. 28, 2010/Aug. 31, 2009. Ric Edelman, Executive Chairman of Edelman Financial Services, LLC, a Registered Investment Advisor, is an Investment Advisor Representative who offers advisory services offered through Edelman Financial Services, LLC. Securities offered through EF Legacy Securities, LLC, an affiliated broker/dealer, member FINRA/SIPC.

The corner of Fulton and Chestnut streets GOOGLE MAPS

Cops: Driver kills two in B'klyn hit-and-run

Police are investigating an overnight hit-and-run that left two men dead in Cypress Hills, Brooklyn.

Around 12:15 a.m. on Monday, authorities responded to a hit-and-run near the corner of Fulton and Chestnut streets in Brooklyn's Cypress Hills neighborhood, where they found two victims, both pedestrians, with injuries at the scene, officials reported.

Delman Maldonado, 41, was pronounced dead, and 56-year-old Israel Turcios was taken to Brookdale Hospital, where he too died from his injuries, according to police.

A preliminary investigation indicated that an Acura TL sedan speeding east on Fulton Street struck the two men and two parked cars at the corner.

The NYPD was continuing to investigate the crash, and no arrests have been made, police stated. The unknown driver of the sedan fled the location on foot.

JASON NUCKOLLS

Burglary suspect shot in groin during struggle with police

A Queens resident reported seeing an intruder entering her Maspeth home on remote security camera.

KIMBERLY M. AQUILINA
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66th Street and Hull Avenue in Maspeth GOOGLE MAPS

A burglary suspect was shot in the groin during a struggle for a police officer's gun inside a two-family home in Maspeth, Queens, on Monday afternoon.

Initially, there were reports that a 36-year-old woman also had been shot in the head, but police said at a news conference that her injuries were unrelated. She was found lying in her driveway down the block where she had reportedly suffered a seizure and fallen on a cable wire, which got stuck in her scalp.

She was taken to Elmhurst Hospital, according to NYPD.

The suspect, whose name was not released, was described by police as a "career criminal. He was taken to Booth Memorial Hospital and is expected to survive, police said.

The shooting took place around 1:30 p.m. at 66th Street and Hull Avenue in Maspeth.

NYPD Chief of Detectives Robert Boyce said a woman reported seeing an intruder in her home on the nanny camera in her child's bedroom while at work and called 911. When police arrived, they struggled with the suspect over a gun. The suspect was shot once in the struggle before fleeing down Hull Avenue. Officers caught up to the suspect about a block away and arrested him.

Cellphone video was taken by a neighbor, Michael Johnston. The video shows a police officer coming out, then reentering the building. The resident of the first-floor apartment arrived home from work to retrieve her dog. She is seen approaching the door, entering and then running out holding her dog.

In the video, an officer is seen at the side of the building with his weapon drawn. A shot is fired and a scream is heard. Police are seen running after the suspect.

"I saw a guy running out of the house and police running after him," Kevin Faughey, a 35-year-resident of the neighborhood, told the New York Daily News.

The police confirmed that no officers were injured. The officers involved in the shooting are 11- and 12-year veterans of the force, police said.

Police decribed the suspect as a 38-year-old Hispanic Bushwick resident with "an extensive record for burglaries" who is being looked at for other burglaries in Brooklyn and Queens.

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Bereaved dad battles for 911 law for people with disabilities

An activist whose autistic son died in a state group home is traveling from New York to D.C.

SAM NEWHOUSE
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The bereaved father of an autistic child who was killed by a caregiver while at a state-run group facility is now on a mission to ensure other families don't suffer the same loss.

"We didn't know the extent to which it was a systemic problem," said Michael Carey. "I didn't know that most of the safety and abuse-prevention measures weren't in place. I had no idea. Most families are unaware of that, that a lot of these facilities are really not safe."

Carey is traveling in an RV from upstate New York to Washington, D.C., to lobby for "Jonathan's Law," legislation that would require caregivers at group homes call 911 if any of their wards or patients are injured.

He stopped at Independence Mall in Philadelphia on Monday by the Liberty Bell to raise awareness of his belief that the disabled in group homes face unconstitutional discrimination.

"I've been fighting for a 911 law ever since Jonathan was killed," Carey said of his 13-year-old autistic son, who was killed by a caregiver at a group home in 2007. Carey's son had suffered multiple injuries while in care without any 911 calls being made.

"The problem is 911 is not being called when someone is hurt or abused," he said.

He believes a law requiring these state-funded facilities to call 911 for every injury might have led to intervention by law enforcement before his son was killed and could protect other people living in group homes.

He accused the CEOs of organizations that operate group homes of covering up injuries and not calling 911 when patients or clients are hurt because it could endanger their federal and state funding.

"Because they want to keep their $400,000-a-year-salary and make sure their facility looks like it's safe, they'll tell staff to cover it up, to keep things from police," Carey said. "They're not protecting the disabled. They're protecting the abusers. ... How they're able to get away with it is avoiding 911."

Carey not only wants new laws, but also argued that the Department of Justice should commence a criminal and civil rights investigation into the treatment of people with disabilities at group homes in New York.

Reforms to how these homes are operated, including background checks, standardized training, a 60-hour cap on work and drug testing for staff would also improve the situation, he said.

Jonathan Carey PROVIDED

Jonathan Carey Foundation

To learn more, Visit Jonathancareyfoundation.org.

An RV with the Jonathan Carey Foundation parks next to the Liberty Bell on Independence Mall in Philadelphia. CHARLES MOSTOLLER

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Koch brothers rebuff big donors' calls to back Trump for White House

The Kochs, with a nearly $300 million political war chest, have earned a reputation as powerful allies in Republican politics.

The billionaire industrialist Koch brothers rejected pressure over the weekend from dozens of big donors in their sprawling political network to back presidential candidate Donald Trump, saying that their money was better spent trying to influence congressional races.

The rejection deprives Trump, a New York businessman who has never previously run for elected office, of a major source of fundraising and reflects how his unorthodox White House bid has sparked some disarray among fundraisers who would normally be squarely behind a Republican nominee.

Charles Koch, the dominant player in his political partnership with brother David Koch, told attendees at a bi-annual donor retreat at a luxury resort in Colorado Springs, Colorado: "At this point, I can't support either candidate" for the White House.

He said network's mandate was to shore up "the country's financial future and eliminate corporate welfare," a reference to government subsidies provided to some industries.

"But since it appears that neither presidential candidate is likely to support us in these efforts, we are focused on maximizing the number of principled leaders in the House and Senate who will," he said.

Trump's protectionist stances and pledges to review free trade agreements and to get tough on immigration have clashed with the Kochs' free-market political philosophy. Charles Koch has described as a "blood libel" the idea he would instead support Hillary Clinton, the Democratic presidential nominee for the Nov. 8 election.

David Koch GETTY IMAGES

A group of wealthy Republican donors, who paid the minimum $100,000 per year to be members of the 700-strong Koch network, had been urging the brothers to step off the sidelines of the election and back Trump.

The donors argued that if Trump is elected, the Koch network would want to have influence on his emerging policies and cabinet picks, and to have access to a Trump administration.

Over cocktails on the patio overlooking the Rocky Mountains, in private meetings and on text message threads, some donors voiced their concern that if the Kochs alienate Trump, "it could hurt us down the road."

Some suggested that some donors could leave the Koch network over the decision not to back Trump. Oil magnate Harold Hamm, a leading candidate to serve as Trump's energy secretary, did not attend the weekend gathering.

Other donors who had been at the forefront of a movement to urge the Kochs to get on board with Trump, like billionaire broadcasting magnate Stanley Hubbard, said that in a private meeting with Charles, they had now been convinced that the Kochs were "doing the right thing." REUTERS

BRIEF

Pilot in balloon crash had drunk driving, drug convictions

The pilot killed along with 15 other people in the crash of a hot air balloon in central Texas on Saturday had numerous convictions for drunk driving and at least one drug-related charge dating back to 1990, according to online records.

The balloon, flown by Heart of Texas Hot Air Balloon Rides chief pilot and owner Alfred "Skip" Nichols, hit a power line, setting its basket on fire, and plummeted into a pasture near Lockhart, about 30 miles south of the state capital Austin, killing all aboard.

Authorities have not yet issued findings of their investigation into the cause of the crash.

Online records in Missouri's St. Louis County show Nichols pleaded guilty to drunk driving charges at least three times between 1990 and 2010, as well as several other vehicular charges.

In 2000, he also pleaded guilty to a drug-related charge and spent time in prison, according to criminal records.

Following his 2010 conviction for drunk driving, Nichols was sentenced to seven years in prison and was released on parole in January 2012 after less than a year and a half. REUTERS

Cleanup after floods

Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan declared a state of emergency for Ellicott City, allowing aid to be released more quickly for the community that was devastated by a flash flood over the weekend. Firefighters rescued about 120 people and emergency workers were also dealing with a water main break, Howard County said in a statement. GETTY IMAGES

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Ohio man pleads guilty to plotting to attack US Capitol

An Ohio man on Monday pleaded guilty to plotting to attack the U.S. Capitol with guns and bombs and now faces up to 30 years in prison.

Christopher Cornell, 22, dressed in black-and-white striped jail clothes and shackled, pleaded guilty in U.S. District Court in Cincinnati to attempted murder of government officials, possession of a firearm to commit a crime and attempting to provide material support to a foreign terrorist organization, the Islamic State militant group.

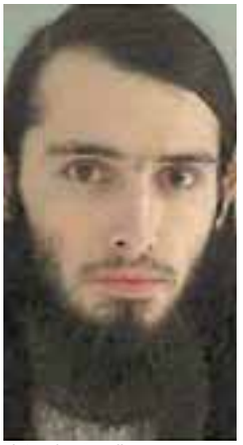
A fourth charge of solicitation to commit a violent crime will be dismissed at his sentencing on Oct. 31, said one of his attorneys, Eric Eckes. Cornell, who mainly answered the judge's questions with "yes, ma'am" and "no, ma'am," faces up to 30 years in prison and a lifetime of supervision, according to officials at the hearing.

The attempted murder charge carries a maximum sentence of 20 years in prison.

Another Cornell attorney, Martin Pinales, said after the hearing that the guilty plea was in the best interest of his client.

"At the sentencing hearing, all the facts will come out, and those will be instrumental in the sentencing," he said.

Cornell, of Green Township, Ohio, near Cincinnati, was arrested in January 2015 and accused of plotting an attack using pipe bombs and bullets. He initially pleaded not guilty.



Christopher Cornell
BUTLER COUNTY JAIL HANDOUT

In April, U.S. District Judge Sandra Beckwith in Cincinnati ruled that Cornell, who has been held without bond since his arrest, was competent to stand trial. Last November, the judge ordered a psychiatric evaluation for Cornell after his attorneys questioned his mental competence.

Cornell researched the construction of pipe bombs, purchased two semi-automatic rifles and 600 rounds of ammunition, and made plans to travel to Washington to carry out the plot, according to the original indictment.

After his arrest, he posted statements online that included a call for others to join him in violent jihad against the United States on behalf of Islamic State, federal prosecutors said, citing the plea agreement.

Cornell's father, who previously told local media he felt his son was set up by an FBI informant, declined to address the plea after the hearing.

> *"At the sentencing hearing, all the facts will come out, and those will be instrumental in the sentencing."*
>
> Martin Pinales

"We love Christopher very much and we all support him," John Cornell said. "He has a lot of family and friends that support him."

REUTERS

BRIEF

McDonald's USA completes move to serving chickens free of human antibiotics

McDonald's Corp. has removed chickens raised with antibiotics that are important to human medicine from its U.S. supply chain months ahead of schedule, part of its drive to target increasingly health-conscious consumers.

The fast food company also said it is removing artificial preservatives from Chicken McNuggets and several breakfast items and rolling out new hamburger buns that do not contain high fructose corn syrup.

The changes come as McDonald's competes with other restaurant chains that are overhauling their menus to make them more appealing to consumers seeking healthier options.

The company had previously planned to phase out chickens raised with antibiotics important to human medicine by March 2017. It completed the move earlier due to quicker than expected work by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, which helped to verify that the birds were not given the drugs, said Marion Gross, senior vice president of McDonald's North American supply chain. REUTERS

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BRIEF

Taliban claim Kabul bomb attack on compound used by foreigners

A Taliban truck bomb exploded outside a protected hotel compound used by foreign service contractors in Kabul on Monday, ripping a deep crater in the ground and leaving a tangle of wreckage but causing few casualties.

The loud blast was heard around Kabul at about 1:30 a.m. Monday and electricity was cut off in many areas, heightening uncertainty in a city on edge after a suicide attack a week earlier that killed at least 80 people.

One attacker was killed after detonating his vehicle and two were killed by police in the early hours of the morning, Kabul police chief Abdul Rahman Rahimi said. One police officer was killed and four were wounded. REUTERS

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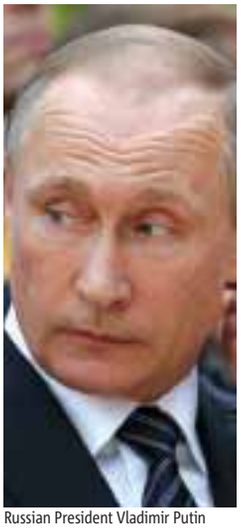
Islamic State calls on members to carry out jihad in Russia

It was not immediately clear why Russia would be a target, but Russia and the U.S. are talking about boosting military and intelligence cooperation against Islamic State and al Qaeda in Syria.

Islamic State called on its group members to carry out jihad in Russia in a nine-minute YouTube video.

"Listen Putin, we will come to Russia and will kill you at your homes … Oh Brothers, carry out jihad and kill and fight them," a masked man driving a car in the desert yelled while wagging his finger in the last couple of minutes of the video.



Russian President Vladimir Putin GETTY IMAGES

The video with subtitles showed footage of armed men attacking armored vehicles and tents and collecting arms in the desert. "Breaking into a barrack of the Rejectionist military on the international road south Akashat," read one subtitle.

It was not immediately possible to independently verify the video, but the link to the footage was published on a Telegram messaging account used by the militant group.

Islamic State has called on its supporters to take action with any available weapons targeting countries it has been fighting.

There has been a string of deadly attacks claimed by Islamic state in Europe over the past weeks. Last week, assailants loyal to Islamic State forced an elderly Catholic priest in France to his knees before slitting his throat. Since the mass killing in Nice, southern France on July 14, there have been four incidents in Germany, including the most recent suicide bombing at a concert in Ansbach. REUTERS

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Russian helicopter shot down in rebel-held Syria

A Russian military helicopter was shot down in Syria's rebel-held Idlib province on Monday killing all five people on board, in the biggest officially acknowledged loss of life for Russian forces since they started operations in Syria.

Images on social media purportedly taken at the scene of the crash showed a dead body stripped of clothing being dragged through the dirt near the wreckage. Russian identity documents purportedly taken from the helicopter could also be seen.

Russia's defence ministry said the Mi-8 military transport helicopter had been shot down after delivering humanitarian aid to the city of Aleppo as it made its way back to Russia's main air base in the western province of Latakia.

"As far as we know from the information that has reached the defence ministry, those on board died, they died heroically," Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said in a conference call with reporters.

Syrian rebels gathering around the wreckage of a Russian Mi-8 military transport helicopter after it was shot down along the administrative border between Idlib province, northwestern Syria, and neighboring Aleppo. GETTY IMAGES

The helicopter came down near the town of Saraqeb, in Idlib province, roughly mid-way between Aleppo and the Russian air force base at Khmeimim, near the Mediterranean coast.

No group has claimed responsibility for shooting down the helicopter. Islamic State fighters are not active in the area, but there are other Islamist rebel groups there, as well as moderates backed by the United States and its allies.

That raises the prospect — which could cause a major diplomatic incident — of the helicopter having been brought down by a U.S.-supplied weapon. The United States has equipped some rebel groups with TOW anti-tank missiles, which can also be used against helicopters.

Russia's military has since September last year been supporting President Bashar al-Assad in Syria's 5-year-old civil war. REUTERS

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the word

Rachel Roy accuses Beyhive of hacking

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Don't mess with the Queen Bey, or you will get stung by the Beyhive. Bad.

Rachel "Becky with the Good Hair" Roy was aggressively spammed on Instagram by the Beyhive following the release of "Sorry," which accused the designer of having an affair with Jay Z. Beyonce's fans eventually backed off, but it appears that may have only been to devise a more elaborate revenge plot.

Allegedly, a fan had hacked into Roy's Gmail, iCloud and even changed her phone number. Roy then contacted the LAPD and, according to docs obtained by TMZ, blamed Beyonce's loyal followers for the incident. She explained that the hack stemmed from the "good hair" IG post. The authorities are still investigating, but it doesn't seem like Roy will ever escape the "Becky" title.

Watch out: Margot Robbie has a tattoo gun

The comic-book movie "Suicide Squad" comes out Friday, and so far there's been an endless amount of wacky stories from its nutty set: Actor Jai Courtney taking shrooms as part of his prep; Viola Davis being told by director David Ayer to call co-star Joel Kinnaman a "p---y"; and most notorious of all, Jared Leto getting so into his role as the Joker that he mailed his fellow actors condoms and anal beads.

Margot Robbie, whom Leto sent a live rat (as you do), has a comparatively benign story: She bought a tattoo gun and started giving everyone amateur tattoos. Speaking to Jimmy Fallon, she confessed that she's not licensed and, despite giving 50 people permanent stains on their skin, she's gotten worse, not better. "I remember my first couple, I was like, 'I'm really impressed with myself,'" she exclaimed. "But it's gotten downhill since then." Some of them she would do on people's feet, which she called "toe emojis." Others were cute little stick figures — say, of a girl holding a balloon. Let's hope "Suicide Squad" is a monster hit. After all, if there's no sequel, we'll have to return to a boring life where every actor doesn't have an excuse to go bats—t crazy.

Kanye West is still probably going to run for president

Kanye West sat down with BBC Radio1's Annie Mac over the weekend to discuss all the things we needed to kick off our Monday morning. First things first, that 2020 bid for president was just a joke — sort of, kind of, not really.

"When I talk about the idea of being president, I'm not saying I have any political views. I don't have views on politics, I just have a view on humanity, on people, on the truth," he says of his surprise announcement at the 2015 MTV VMAs last August. "If there is anything that I can do with my time and my day, to somehow make a difference while I'm alive, I'm going to try to do it."

To be fair, West's bid doesn't sound like the most outrageous that we've heard. In fact, it may also be one of the most compassionate.

"We are numb. We're numb to 500 kids getting killed in Chicago a year. We're numb to the fact that there were seven police shootings in the beginning of July," he told Mac. "We're numb to places on the Earth that we don't live. Like, our life is OK, but it's OK for other people's lives to not be OK." Yeezy for 2020?

Britney Spears doesn't remember ever meeting Taylor Swift

During an Australian radio interview on Monday, Britney Spears was asked who she'd rather sit next to on a 24-hour flight to Sydney — Taylor Swift or Katy Perry. The "... Baby One More Time" singer confessed she already met Katy Perry but since she hadn't met Swift before, she'd choose her as her travel buddy.

It turns out, however, that Spears HAS met Swift before — twice! The first time was pre-fame Taylor and the second time was at the VMAs in 2008, when Britney was nominated for her song, "Piece of Me." There are even photos to prove it!

Looks like T. Swift didn't make much of an impression on Spears for her to completely forget meeting the pop star. Who knew a pop star like Swift could be so "invisible?"

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Choreographer Andy Blankenbuehler tells us what's new as the musical gets its first revival.

T. MICHELLE MURPHY
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Are you feeling the urge to pause under a street lamp and glance toward the distant glow of Times Square? The pull of nostalgia is strong with Andrew Lloyd Webber's "Cats," which officially opened July 31 for its first Broadway revival since its 18-year run that began in 1982.

The New York production comes on the heels of a successful West End run, although it's not exactly the same show. Nor is it quite what your parents might recall. One of the big updates is new choreography by Andy Blankenbuehler, who won a Tony Award for making the founding father dance in "Hamilton."

"As a young dancer, 'Cats' was a huge inspiration to me," he says. "I never had the chance to dance in the show, and I felt that I had really missed out on being part of history. So when Andrew asked me to lend my voice [to the 2016 revival], I was just thrilled."

How does a relatively fresh choreographer go about putting his touch on one of the most fundamentally movement-driven musicals?

"Gillian [Lynne] created such a recognizable vocabulary, just as John Napier's design is simply historic. So I set based my work off the original staging," he says. "Sometimes it was about diving deeper into character or dovetailing transition moments. Today's audiences are definitely impatient, and they demand their imagination to be pushed in new directions."

New talent was also brought in for the lighting, which was adapted by Natasha Katz, whose work can also currently be seen in "School of Rock" and "Aladdin."

"Her work, as always, is stunning," Blankenbuehler says. "It provides focus that is vibrant. Even though the set is the original design, Natasha makes it seem brand new."

Smaller orchestral and structural changes have found their way into the libretto over time, while certain novelties, such as a rap introduced in London, were nixed for New York. That might disappoint "Hamilton" fans, but it makes sense for the city where "Cats" still holds the title for fourth longest-running show.

Perhaps that's because, at the end of the day, it's all about what dazzled crowds in the first place. And that memory seems to be the key to attracting fans this summer — not only those who loved it before, explains Blankenbuehler, but a new generation.

"Through my children, I've witnessed how this score pulls audiences in and sends their imaginations racing. They love it," he says. "For so many people, 'Cats' was their first Broadway show. Now those people are in the audience bringing their kids. I feel so very lucky to be part of that cycle."

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Why Knee And Hip Arthritis Pain Sufferers Are Flocking To This Manhattan Medical Clinic To Relieve Pain And Avoid Joint Replacement Surgery

Knee Arthritis Pain Breakthrough?

Real Doctor's Advice On The Most Advanced Medical Treatments For Knee Arthritis Pain

"The Knee Arthritis Treatment Everyone Is Talking About..."

By Matt Edgar
America's Heath Writer

NYC - Modern medicine has come a long way.

The success stories and lives saved are endless.

And now, through advanced technology and science - skilled medical doctors are helping more knee and hip arthritis pain sufferers than ever before.

In just a moment, I'm going to reveal some of these incredible arthritis pain techniques...

So you can possibly relive some or all of your pain...

Just like thousands of others already have.

I bet many of these former arthritis pain sufferers were just like *you*.

But first, I have to tell you about this - it's very important information so you can make the very best decision about relieving your arthritis pain.

It will also help you avoid costly and painful mistakes.

Ready for some great arthritis pain relief information? Ok, here we go...

The Two Arthritis Treatment Paths...

The first thing to understand, is that there are basically two treatment paths you can choose to go down when you are looking for relief to knee or hip arthritis pain.

One path is non-surgical. You do not want surgery (who does!) so you do everything you can to avoid it.

You take pain pills, do physical therapy and exercises and maybe you even changed you diet.

Nothing worked. The pain progressively got worse until you couldn't stand it anymore.

Because you did not get the proper treatment - your joints decayed past the point of no return. Now they are basically "bone on bone" and the doctor told you there is no other option. You need...

The Dreaded...

joint replacement surgery.

I will admit - some people do need joint replacement surgery.

This procedure has come a very long way in recent years.

For some, at a certain point, this is the way to go.

But - and this is a very big but... even though this procedure has improved dramatically... it is not without risk.

In fact, a $500 million verdict in a lawsuit was just awarded to patients who received faulty hip implants during hip replacement surgery.

Some of the damage being reported from the faulty hip replacements sounds horrific.

There is no doubt, joint replacement surgery should be your last resort.

But too many people think they need joint replacement surgery when you do not.

In fact, many respond extremely well to a medical treatment approach that is finally becoming much more popular.

This is...

Treatment Path #2

This treatment path is non-surgical but it probably NOT what you are thinking.

It is NOT pain pills and grueling exercises. We think it is...

Much better

It is a treatment that actually puts vital lubricating gel directly into your arthritic knee or hip joint.

This is extremely important because when you have arthritis, you lose lubricating fluid in your joints.

In other words, your joints basically "dry up."

This causes joint surfaces to rub together causing all kinds of problems including brutal PAIN.

As time goes on - the joint wears out more and more and the pain can be excruciating.

The medical procedure I am speaking about is called... viscosupplementation. During this procedure a FDA approved gel-like medicine is placed directly into the joint space.

This allows the joint to glide freely and move much better again.

This decreases the abnormal rubbing and wear and tear and, in many cases, decreases or even eliminates pain.

Sounds Great Right?

It does. But... viscosupplementation has not worked for many people.

There are two very important reasons why:

If you have knee or hip arthritis pain and want to relieve your pain without surgery - or if you have already tried viscosupplementation without good results - what you are about to discover will be extremely important...

The first reason some people did not get good results with viscosupplementation is... bluntly... this is a real medical procedure done by real medical doctors.

This is NOT a "wonder cure" sold by slick marketers.

In the real world of medicine and science, no treatments work 100% of the time or on everyone. And no good and ethical doctor would make such a claim or guarantee any results what-so-ever.

So, there are some people that will not get results with this treatment.

Reason #2

To assure the best possible results, this treatment requires expensive advanced technology and a skilled medical doctor with experience doing this procedure.

For this treatment to have the best chance to work, the lubricating gel must be placed precisely into the joint space. Thats why **"Precision Arthritis Targeting Technology"**or PATT is always used. PATT uses a special medical camera and fluorosocpic imaging to guide the procedure and make sure the gel-like medicine gets exactly where you need it.

Many doctors doing this procedure do not use this advanced digital imaging and do these procedure either under ultrasound or "blind."

No Difference?

They say there is no difference - but research shows that doctors doing joint injections without being guided by the proper imaging ***completely miss the joint space about one third of the time.***

And because treatments are so precise - most patients report they are also painless.

Now that you know the facts - would you choose a doctor who uses advanced digital imaging to guide the treatment - or one who injects you blind?

Can you see why this treatment has not worked for so many? And can you see why, with the Precision Arthritis Targeting Technology and a doctor who has already done thousands of these procedures - ***it could work for you?***

That's why so many knee and hip arthritis sufferers are flocking to a medical clinic in NYC called "NY Pain Relief MD" that focusses on helping patients relieve their knee and hip arthritis pain and get back to doing all the things they want to do - like playing golf, walking without pain, tennis and many others.

But one of the biggest successes is when patients who were told they needed joint replacement surgery cancel the surgery because they feel so much better.

They get such great results because they use advanced digital imaging (PATT) to guide their treatments, their doctors are specially trained and have performed THOUSANDS of treatments and they use multiple brands of lubricating gels (many doctors only use one they have a "relationship" with).

But that's not all - for difficult cases, they also add advanced PRP and Stem cell treatments with often wonderful results.

Every patient is unique and they have a very unique treatment plan for every single patient so you can get the best possible results in the shortest amount of time.

Here's How To Find Out If We Can Help You

If you have knee or hip arthritis pain and would like to find out if the treatments at NY Pain MD can help you - you can come in for a risk-free no-obligation screening.. During this screening you will get a chance to ask questions and find out if you are a candidate for these advanced medical treatments - and what your best options are. The screening is completely free with no further obligation.

After your screening, you will breath a big sigh or relief knowing what your options are and the best way to deal with your pain.

If you are not sure - I know exactly how you feel. Arthritis pain is brutal. And it is hard to get straight answers.

So many patients felt the same way.

They told us they they had given up until they read some information just like this and they came in to see us.

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The worst thing that can happened is you find out this treatment is not for you.

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What if we really can get rid of some of all your pain?

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NYC PAIN MD

Why Is This Treatment In Such High Demand?

"Precision Arthritis Targeting" Technology

There are many big medical clinics in NYC. In fact, New York offers some of the best medical care in the world.

With so many great options - **why are knee arthritis sufferers flocking to NY Pain Relief MD?**

There are several reasons. The first is what we can "Precision Targeted Knee Pain Technology."

Here's what that means and why it is so important to you.

This treatment places a medical lubricating and cushioning gel directly into the arthritic knee joint. This helps the knee glide more smoothly decreasing or eliminating pain.

Precision Arthritis Targeted Technology Or PATT means that we use extremely advanced digital imaging to make sure this lubricating gel is placed precisely where it is supposed to go. This means treatments have the best chance for success.

Doing this procedure without this advanced technology often leads to misplaced lubricating gel and failure.

Another secret to success is using multiple treatments to maximize pain relief and healing. NY Pain MD uses multiple brands of lubricating gels and also offers stem cell therapy and platelet rich plasma (PRP). PRP is being used by top professional athletes in an attempt to heal injuries faster. The combination of these treatments can often get incredible results when other treatments have failed.

While many clinics only offer one of these treatments - NY Pain Relief Md offers them all under one roof for maximum results and convenience.

And just as important is the experience of NY Pain MD Relief doctors. NY Pain Relief MD doctors are experts at this procedure and have successfully done thousands.

Gillian Jacobs goes wild

The actress talks about overcoming her fear of improv for "Don't Think Twice."

MATT PRIGGE
@mattprigge
matt.prigge@metro.us

Gillian Jacobs plays a long-time improv scene staple in Mike Birbiglia's "Don't Think Twice," in theaters now. THE ORCHARD

In "Don't Think Twice," Gillian Jacobs plays the seasoned member of a close-knit New York improv group. In real life, the "Community" alum, 33, has never done serious improv. In fact, she was terrified of it. You wouldn't know it watching the film, Mike Birbiglia's follow-up to "Sleepwalk With Me."

Jacobs throws herself into the role of Samantha, whose troupe is famous for having members go on to a sketch show a la "Saturday Night Live." She has stayed behind and, as disappointments mount, she wonders if she might ever make it big.

You're not an improv person, though you've been a fixture of the comedy world for years now. Why did you avoid it?

It was always something that really intimidated me. When you see an improv show, it looks like magic. They all seem to be psychically communicating with each other. They can bring something that happened earlier in the show and tie it into a neat bow at the end. I found it wildly intimidating. Before I came to New York to start this movie, two of my "Community" castmates — Jim Rash and Danny Pudi — were doing an improv show in L.A. They said, "Why don't you come onstage and perform?" I was too afraid. I came out at the beginning, then I hid on the side behind this pillar. They were like, "What's wrong with you? You're about to go to New York and do this for real! You've got to get over this!"

How long did it take you to get cool with it?

I either chose to forget or was never told that we were going to do shows before we started shooting. We had rehearsals, and then Mike said, "We've all got to go to [Uprights Citizen Brigade Theater], we have a show in an hour!" I said, "For a paying audience?" He said, "Yep!" You'd have a terrible show, then we'd have one that went great. Or you'd have 15 minutes of bliss and then five minutes of disaster. You really learned to trust the other people in the cast. I felt more and more confident to make a big choice or take a big swing, because I know no matter what crazy pickle I'd get us into, they would rescue me.

Has that affected your acting since?

You have to learn to silence the inner critic. This film just reaffirmed that. The less you hate yourself as you're acting, the better you'll be. [Laughs]

This is a really sad movie about hopes being dashed and people coming to grips with the possibility they don't "have it."

I like that Mike didn't shy away from the fact that sometimes life is filled with disappointment. [Laughs]

Brutal, almost depressing honesty like this can be comforting, in a weird way.

It's true. When you start to open up about your own insecurities, other people around you do as well. Some people you'd think wouldn't have any insecurities have them. It's like, "You, too?" Then you feel less alone.

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wellbeing

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Workout with Pokemon Go

Come on, you gotta catch 'em all.

KATE MOONEY
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If you're at all skeptical that Pokemon Go, the augmented-reality app that requires users to get outside and physically move around to capture animated creatures on their screens, is leading to increased exercise among users, all you have to do is go on Twitter.

Pokemon Go players — known as trainers, per the game's lingo — are tweeting screenshots of their fitness trackers. Wearers of fitness trackers have shown a "population-level surge," or across-the-board increase, in step counts, according to the Washington Post.

Even dog owners who play the game are commenting on how many more walks their pups are getting now that they're on the hunt for Pikachu.

And players who were previously reluctant to get out and about are pleasantly surprised at their newfound mobility, like Twitter user @Son_of_ol: "I've known for a while that I needed to explore more parts of NYC and get more exercise. The solution: Pokemon Go."

Still, it seems contradictory that a smartphone game could prod its players to lead a more active lifestyle. What does an actual fitness trainer — as opposed to a Pokemon Go trainer — have to say about that?

ISTOCK

"I actually think the gameification of fitness in general is fantastic," says Brian Flynn, the owner of Body Unique Personal Training in the Boerum Hill neighborhood of Brooklyn. "That's the future of the industry, isn't it? If you make fitness fun, people will do it!"

Pokemon Go is far from the only app that's turning fitness into a game, or a game into fitness. CNN.com recently released a list of seven Pokemon Go alternatives, including Zombies, Run!, a running app that plays scary stories and sound effects to mimic zombies chasing after you; and SpecTrek, an augmented reality game that has players hunting ghosts instead of Pokemon.

The idea of combining Pokemon Go with a real life workout isn't as far-fetched as it sounds, either. Steve Bambinelli, a certified Cross Fit Level 1 Trainer at Crow Hill Gym in Prospect Heights, Brooklyn, says that at his gym, they've thought about designing a "workout of the day" in which members "go to different Pokestops and every time they find 'x' Pokemon, for that specific Pokemon, you have to do five burpees after you catch it."

"We mentioned it more jokingly than anything else, but I would do it," Bambinelli says. "I'm a firm believer that anything that's getting people out of their house is good. Is it a stupid reason to? Sure. But anything getting people to be active is a great thing."

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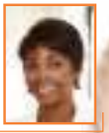

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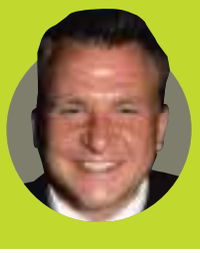
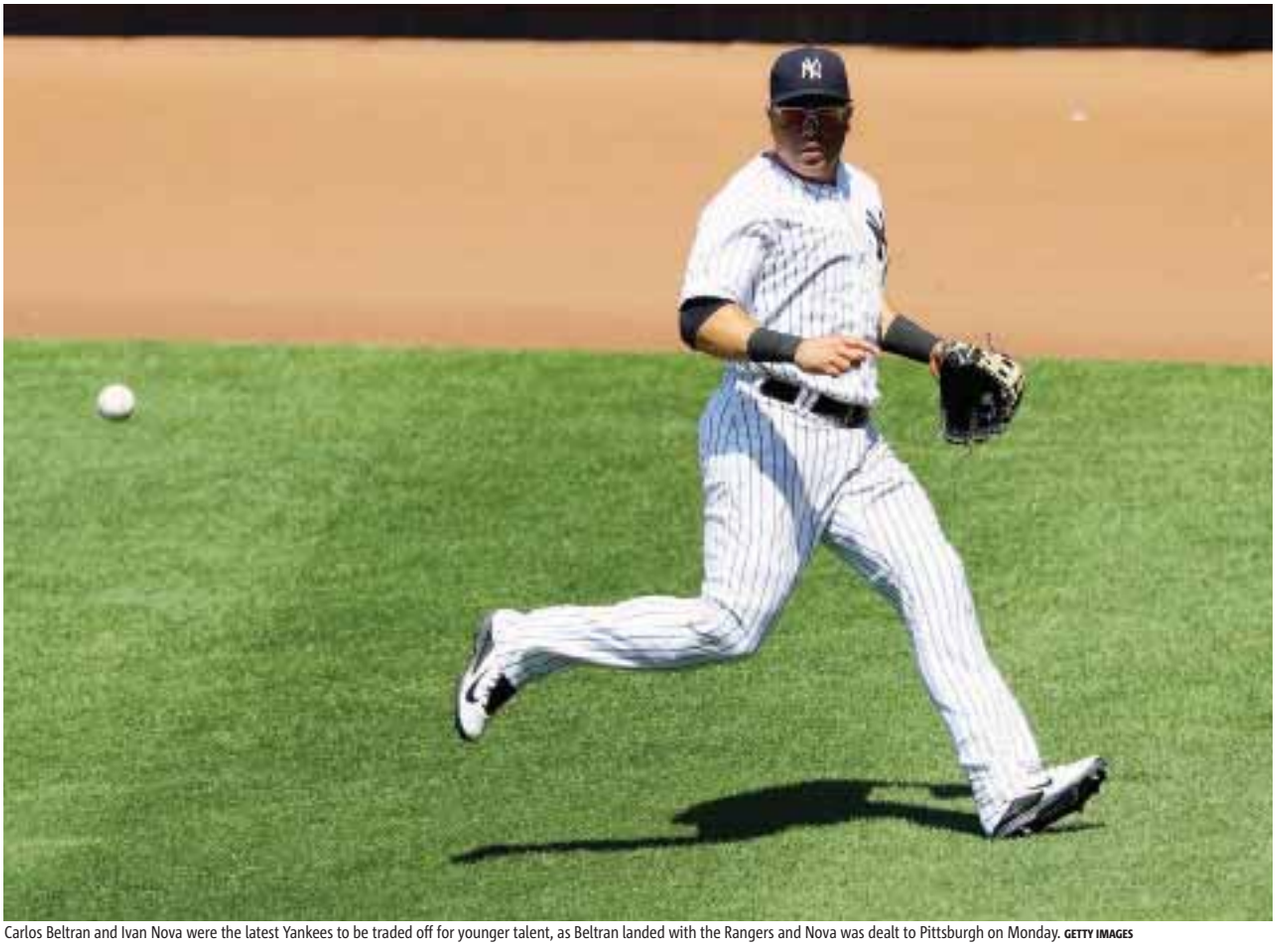
YANKEES ONLY WANT TO BE 'GREAT AGAIN'

MARC MALUSIS

OPINION

Marc Malusis is a columnist for Metro New York and a host on WFAN and CBS Sports Radio. @marcmalusis





Carlos Beltran and Ivan Nova were the latest Yankees to be traded off for younger talent, as Beltran landed with the Rangers and Nova was dealt to Pittsburgh on Monday. GETTY IMAGES

Thank you, Brian Cashman. Thank you, Hal and Hank Steinbrenner. Thank you to Randy Levine as well.

I am not going to get political in this column, but I will steal the slogan for Donald Trump's presidential campaign of "Make America Great Again." America is and always will be great, but that is not the case with the Yankees. They have not been great for quite some time and what Brian Cashman has done in the last week is an attempt to "Make the Yankees Great Again." Not today, but in the future. They are now selling us hope, and I am all for it.

Thank everyone in the Yankees' front office for realizing what this team is in 2016. I wrote about it a few weeks back that the Yankees needed to be smart as we approached the MLB trade deadline and they needed to trade veteran players for young building block pieces. They needed to realize there was a difference between a playoff contender and a championship contender. They needed to see that it is OK to take the financial hit right now, in order to try and build long-term success. Sometimes a winning record is not a successful season, especially when you are hanging on by your finger nails for that "success." It is not a successful season when you are not getting better and are just treading water. The Yankees have perfected the doggie paddle.

That is why it was "smart" to trade Aroldis Chapman to the Cubs for a package that included 19-year-old shortstop prospect Gleyber Torres. That is why it made baseball sense to trade Andrew Miller to the Indians for four prospects, which included 21-year-old outfielder Clint Frazier. After dropping their second straight game to the Rays, it became clear to the Yankees that they needed to sell. The time to strike was now because the value of your relief pitchers was never going to be any higher than it is right now. I know Chapman is a free agent and once he declined to sign an extension, it made sense to move him. Plus, he enjoyed his time in New York and if the Yankees offer him the most money in the offseason, than he will be back. It is that simple.

So, I applaud Cashman and Yankees management for being smart. They have an understanding of what their team is and are not trying to sell themselves on any pipe dreams. It is not about just trying to make the playoffs, it is about trying to win championships. I know prospects are a risk and they are just that — a risk or a gamble on potential. But I believe the Yankees fan is good with that risk after watching the product the past couple of seasons. As a fan base, they have grown tired of paying for the past. Grown tired of bloated contracts on players that no longer resemble the players they once were. Hey, it happens. You win a championship in 2009 and there are going to be aftereffects to that title. I get it, but it is now time to get back to reality. Let the past go and think about the future ahead.

They Yankees have been good, but not great. You strive to be great, and I believe with these deals that is what the Yankees are trying to do. They will eventually be great again.

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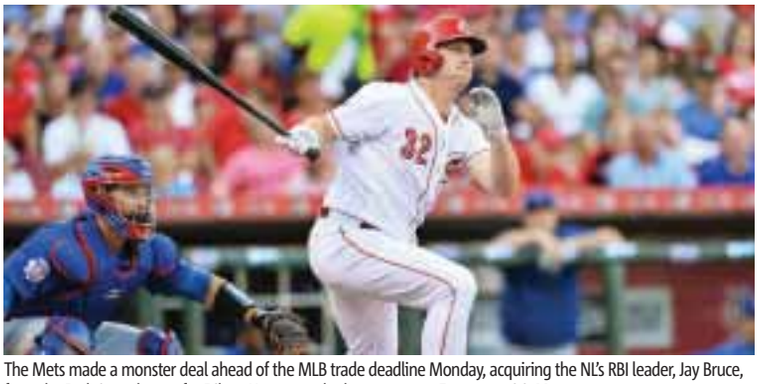

The Mets made a monster deal ahead of the MLB trade deadline Monday, acquiring the NL's RBI leader, Jay Bruce, from the Reds in exchange for Dilson Herrera and other prospects. For more, visit Metro.us. GETTY IMAGES

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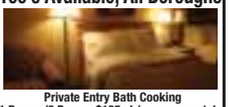

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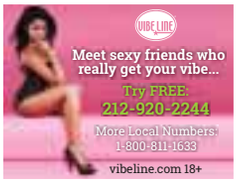

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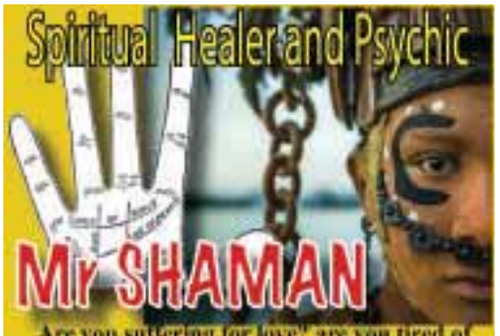

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Across

1 Cartel
5 Grinds to a halt
10 Manage OK
14 Gamblers' mecca
15 Surpass
16 NCAA Bruins
17 Campus org.
18 Hibachi supply
20 Wails
22 Not a soul
23 Heists, slangily
25 Novelist — Ferber
26 High-pitched
27 Goodall subject
28 Unfeeling
32 Harbor warning
33 Swung off-course
35 Toddler perch
36 Zero in on
37 Fannie —
38 Chocolate-colored dog
39 June celebrant
41 Rodeo prop
43 Opera set in Egypt
44 To be, to Brutus
45 Volcanic emission
46 Bearing
48 In conclusion
50 Very intelligent
51 Mark a page (hyph.)
54 "— Davis Eyes"
55 What everybody knows (2 wds.)
57 Number of Muses
61 Hum
62 Baggy
63 Lois Lane portrayer -- Neill
64 — -majeste
65 Put in crops
66 Samberg or Murray

Down

1 Shivery comment
2 Zodiac sign
3 Mich. neighbor
4 Pilot's place
5 Without a smile
6 Pivots
7 Singer — Redding
8 ASAP
9 Dived, as a whale
10 Reduction
11 Prefix for eight
12 Implored
13 A piece of cake
19 Many centuries
21 Sushi morsel
23 They may be at your service
24 Luncheonette lures
25 "En garde" weapons
26 Phase
27 Overflowing
29 Surfing the Web
30 Like some crystal
31 Blackball
34 Pile up
40 Political thaw
41 Mountain flowers
42 Skipped over
43 Cricket organ
47 Toward the stern
49 Bought
50 They fly in formation
51 Cutie-pie
52 Mayberry kid
53 Thickens
54 Place for a wreath
56 Pigeon talk
58 Na+. for one
59 Dime novelist — Buntline
60 England's Isle of —

metro.us/sudoku

easy

3	5					2		
6		7						
					4	5	7	6
7				3	5			8
		9	8	4	1	6		
1			9	2				3
9	8	5	4					
						1		4
		3					9	5

hard

5	3		9					
		2		7		9		
			6		2			7
			2					4
8	5	1	4		7	6	9	2
6					8			
4			1		5			
		5		2		4		
					9		5	8

metro.us/horoscopes

Aries A romantic opportunity can lead to some very cost-efficient changes in your life. Self-improvements will give you the confidence to present your skills and ideas with ease.

Taurus Discussions will lead to improvements that will make your life easier. Don't give in to emotional manipulation. Present a solution that is within your means.

Gemini You will find it difficult to express yourself verbally. Let your actions speak for you by bringing about personal changes that will show how much you care.

Cancer Opportunities will develop through courses or organizations offering self-help techniques. A creative endeavor will turn into an unusual opportunity or partnership.

Leo Make a personal change that will make you look and feel good. Projecting your image and skills in a unique and unexpected manner will raise eyebrows — and supporters.

Virgo Stop being so hard on yourself. Lighten up and make plans to do something you enjoy with someone special. Try something more unusual than anything you've done in the past.

Libra You'll dazzle everyone with your upbeat attitude and savvy way of handling situations and people. A well-deserved proposal will change your life.

Scorpio Jealousy will turn into a costly emotional dispute. Think before you do or say something you might regret. Reconnecting with someone from your past will turn out to be a mistake.

Sagittarius Plan to have some fun and to make physical improvements that will boost your ego. Presenting what you have to offer in a dynamic fashion will be fruitful.

Capricorn A chance to get involved in an interesting project with someone from your past will be inviting, but at the same time, risky. Weigh the pros and cons.

Aquarius You'll stand out and be recognized for your ideas, accomplishments and skills. Once you have taken care of business, romance and physical improvements should be a priority.

Pisces Travel is best kept to a minimum. You can accomplish more sticking close to home. An unusual partnership will develop if you do something to enrich your community. **EUGENIA LAST**

Yesterday's answers

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